HELPFUL RESOURCES

- ◆ ALIVE (Domestic Violence) Hotline (314)-993-2777
- ♦ Huddleston Baptist Family Services (314) 241-4245
- COMTREA Adolescent Substance Abuse Program
 (636) 296-6206, Arnold, MO
 or (314) 773-3670
- Deaconess Crisis Nursery (314)-768-3201
- ♦ Housing Resource Center (314) 771-2273
- ◆ Job Corps (314) 679-0300
- ◆ Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (314) 534-4200
- ♦ Missouri Division of Aging 1-(800)-392-0210
- Missouri Division of Child Support Enforcement (314) 340-7400
- Missouri Children's Division (Formerly known as DFS)
 Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline
 1-(800) 392-3738
- New Beginnings Adolescent Substance Abuse Program
 (314) 758-4900
- Parent Help Line
 1-(800)-427-4626
- ◆ Parents' Anonymous Hotline (314)-771-0803
- St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department Juvenile Division (314) 444-5327
- ◆ Provident Counseling (314) 533-8200
- Public Defender's Office (314) 340-7681 or 552-2250
- St. Louis City Juvenile Detention Center (314) 552-2194
- St. Louis Public Schools, Recruitment & Counseling Center (314) 367-1368
- ♦ Youth Emergency Services (314) 727-6294

RESOURCES

The Prevention & Assessment Community Team utilizes a variety of community resources to aid in addressing the issues faced by the families serviced by the unit.



If you need assistance or an accommodation in order to participate in these court services, please contact:
THE AMERICANS with
DISABILITY COORDINATOR,
JANICE KOCH

at 920 North Vandeventer Ave St. Louis, Missouri 63108 or by telephone VOICE (314) 552-2118 TDD (314) 531-6158

Prevention & Community Assessment Team

(P.A.C.T.)



Family Court - Juvenile Division 920 North Vandeventer Avenue St. Louis, Missouri 63108

Phone: (314) 552-2000 Fax: (314) 552-2260 Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday (Except Holidays)



Dedicated to Child Protection

What is PACT?

The Prevention & Assessment Community Team is comprised of six Deputy Juvenile Officers (DJO's) who work in the community to investigate abuse and neglect referrals. The DJO's also assist targeted elementary schools with children who have an abundance of school absences and/or other abuse and neglect issues.

The beginning of PACT:

PACT was started by the St. Louis City Family Court – Juvenile Division in January 2002 in order to reduce the future need for out of home placements of children involved in neglect and abuse issues.

What is the goal of PACT?

The goal of PACT is to assist in ensuring, along with the Missouri Division of Family Services, that children and their families are receiving services, support and monitoring that will help prevent future acts of abuse and neglect, thereby reducing the number of children which require out of home placements.

How was my family referred to PACT?

Referrals are received predominately from institutions such as hospitals, schools and the Missouri Division of Family Services. Referrals can also be made by churches, neighbors, and police and from the parents themselves, but are much less frequent than institutional referrals.

What types of referrals does PACT handle?

PACT typically handles referrals for children age 12 and under, who are physically located in the city of St. Louis (such as in a hospital), whose home is in the city or whose parents live in the city. Referrals cover any abuse or neglect situation. Abuse referrals may be either physical, sexual or emotional (rare). Neglect referrals may either be educational, medical, physical or environmental.

What is the referral process?

Any person who sees or suspects acts of abuse or neglect of a child should immediately call the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect hotline at 1-800-392-3738.

Many persons not only have a moral responsibility to report, but also are considered mandated reporters by law. The Missouri Division of Family Services will respond to the report according to its policies. If the Division feels that the child is in immediate danger of abuse or neglect the Division will ask the Court to take custody of the child and remove the child from the home. If the Division needs assistance in completing its investigation a referral to PACT will be made.

What constitutes a referral?

Referrals should be written and provide as much detail as possible regarding the identity and whereabouts of the child and the parents(s) or caregiver(s). The reason for concern should be

clearly stated. The steps taken to address the problem should be outlined. The person(s) making the referral should identify themselves and provide a means to be contacted should the need arise. The referral should indicate whether the referring party has already filed a report with the Missouri Division of Family Services Abuse and Neglect hotline.

Projects of PACT:

The Deputy Juvenile Officers (DJO's) will be working with targeted St. Louis City public elementary schools to investigate possible educational neglect cases.

How are these schools selected?

The schools selected by the PACT Unit are those with the highest volume of absenteeism during the previous school year.

